

From: ralyea
To: Microsoft ATR,fin@mobilizationoffice.com@inetgw
Date: 1/11/02 10:10am

Freehold, NJ 07728-1630

January 10, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

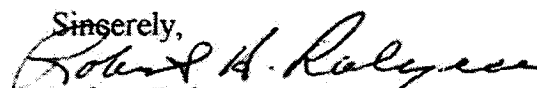
Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

The purpose of this letter is so that I may go on record as being a staunch supporter of the settlement which was reached between Microsoft, the Department of Justice, and nine states, with the assistance of a mediator. The settlement, reached in ear November, 2001, after extensive negotiations among all parties, extends to terms beyond the issues in the original lawsuit.

Microsoft agreed to many terms that will help the entire Information Technology industry. Microsoft will disclose the intellectual property of the various internal interface used in Windows operating system products. Microsoft will grant computer makers broad new rights to configure Windows to promote even non-Microsoft software programs that compete with programs included within Windows. Beginning with Windows XP, Microsoft will make it easy to choose and promote non-Microsoft software within Windows itself.

The Department of Justice and Microsoft have spent millions of dollars battling each other in the antitrust suit. Any additional money that may be spent will be a complete waste. The government has too many other issues to worry about right now, and cannot afford to pour money down the drain. Our nation's economy is in trouble. A healthy Microsoft will help provide the shot in the arm that it needs.

Thank you for allowing me to express my views in support of the Microsoft settlement.

Sincerely,


MTC-00010221_0002